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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/2/2006

SPONSOR Rodriguez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Santa Fe Schools Bilingual Curriculum SB 503

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$200.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 503 appropriates \$200,000 from the General Fund to PED for expenditure in FY 2007 to develop an appropriate bilingual curriculum, that meet the individual needs of English language learner students, in the Santa Fe Public Schools (SFPS) and a related intensive professional development program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2007 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Public Education Department analysis includes the following:

- The Bilingual Education Law of 2004 (Article 23) requires all districts implementing Bilingual Education programs to develop a standardized curriculum, including instructional materials with scope and sequence and to provide professional development to all personnel.
- State funding for implementing Bilingual Education programs for 2005-2006 amounts to \$34.8 million. Santa Fe schools (Including charter schools) receive \$2.0 million for their State Bilingual Programs.
- Fifty-six districts receive federal funding from the Title III English Language Acquisition programs. Federal funding totals \$4.5 million in FY 2006. SFPS receives \$211,000 for Title III.
- According to the Accountability Data System (ADS) 40th-Day Report of 2005-2006:
 - There are 61,407 students in grades K-12 participating in the State Bilingual Education programs.
 - From the 65,124 (19.84% of the total student population) English Language Learner (ELL) students in the New Mexico public school system, 18.6% participate in the State Bilingual Education programs.
 - There are 4,158 students (30% of the student population) in SFPS participating in the State Bilingual Education programs.
 - There are 4,639 English Language Learners in SFPS. From the total ELL student population in this district, 87% participate in the State Bilingual Education programs.
 - SFPS has 79 highly qualified Bilingual Education teachers.
 - SFPS has 11 highly qualified TESOL teachers.
- PED's Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau, through the Focused Monitoring/Technical Assistance process, has required the SFPS to develop a "scope and sequence curriculum plan for home languages and English as a Second Language," (Focused Monitoring Report, February 22-24, 2005).

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The PED Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau is responsible for approving, monitoring, and assuring the quality of these programs. The motivation for this bill may relate to the idea of an "appropriate" bilingual curriculum. If the district has not implemented an "appropriate" curriculum, however that should be defined, PED has the responsibility to make sure SFPS is in compliance.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The district will need to allocate state and federal program funding to meet the statutory requirements.

BMC/yr